



Jeff Lindsey
Director
Federal Regulatory Affairs

401 9th St, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20004
Voice: 202 585 1921
Fax: 202 585 1896
Jeff.L.Lindsey@mail.sprint.com

EX PARTE

March 12, 2003

BY ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentation
CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171, 90-571, 92-237, 99-200, 95-116, and 98-170 – In
the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service et al.

Dear Ms. Dortch,

On behalf of Sprint, Richard Juhnke and I met, via telephone, yesterday with Paul Garnett of the Wireline Competition Bureau. The policy positions expressed by Sprint were consistent with Sprint's February 19, 2003 comments on the Petition for Interim Waiver filed Bellsouth, SBC and Verizon in these proceedings. Sprint confirmed its support of averaging USF charges across a broad base of customers. Specifically, we explained how application of USF charges for LNP, PICC and Interstate IntraLATA toll will be costly and time-consuming to implement at an individual customer level. Further, if these charges were allowed to be spread across a broad customer base, the impact would be minor; only a few additional pennies per customer per month. Sprint also stated that application of USF charges on DSL-based Internet access customers will create a competitive disadvantage vs. cable modem providers, either in terms of higher prices or reduced margins, depending upon whether the DSL-based provider opts to pass the charge along to the customer or absorb it. Accordingly, Sprint believes the recovery of USF contributions for its DSL-based Internet access services should also be averaged across a broader customer base.

In accordance with FCC rules, this letter is being filed electronically in the dockets identified above.

Sincerely,
/s/
Jeff Lindsey

cc: Paul Garnett